

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were pending in this application. Claim 3 was objected to only as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Claims 1, 2 and 4-19 have been rejected. Claim 1 has been revised to incorporate the subject matter of claim 3, along with intervening claim 2, and so claims 2 and 3 have been cancelled. The other independent claims have been likewise revised to include the subject matter that the Office Action deemed to be allowable. Claims 5-7 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 4, 12 and 14 are independent.

The Examiner is thanked for the indicated allowability of claim 3. The subject matter of claim 3 (and intervening claim 2) has been incorporated into claim 1, meaning claim 1 now is in condition for allowance. The other independent claims also now incorporate the subject matter of claim 3, and so also are in condition for allowance.

The Examiner's comments regarding the priorities claims by this application are noted and respectfully traversed as moot in view of the revisions to the claims. In any event, the teachings of the priority documents speak for themselves.

The Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1, 2 and 4-19 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. patent appln. publ. no. 2003/0198345 to Van Buer in view of the article "A Highly Regular and Scalable AES Hardware Architecture" by Mangard, et al., and further in view of U.S. patent appln. publ. no. 2003/0108195 to Okada et al.

In view of the revision of claims 1, 4, 12 and 14 to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 3, these claims patentably distinguish over the cited art at least for the same reasons as claim 3.

Accordingly, favorable consideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that all outstanding rejections have been addressed and are now overcome. Applicant further submits that all claims pending in this application are patentable over the prior art. Accordingly, favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

No fees are believed to be due in connection with the filing of this paper. If, however, the Commissioner deems any additional fee(s) to be now or hereafter due in connection with this application, authority is given to charge all such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-4019.

In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please contact Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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